IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)

Motoki Kato

Serial No.

continuation of 09/061,581

For

SIGNAL CODING METHOD, SIGNAL CODING

APPARATUS, SIGNAL RECORDING MEDIUM, AND

SIGNAL TRANSMISSION METHOD

Filed

herewith

Examiner

S. An (parent application)

Art Unit

2613 (parent application)

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examining the above-referenced application on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows: